



Tuberculosis in Blacks

TB Elimination: Now Is the Time!

Black, non-Hispanic persons continue to have a disproportionate share of tuberculosis (TB) in the United States.

- In 2004, TB was reported in 4,066 black, non-Hispanic persons—28% of all persons reported with TB nationally.
- In 2004, the rate of TB in black, non-Hispanic persons was 11.3 cases per 100,000 population, which is more than 8 times higher than the rate of TB in white, non-Hispanic persons (1.3 cases per 100,000 population).

The proportion of TB in black, non-Hispanic persons is even greater if only U.S.-born persons reported with TB are examined.

- U.S.-born persons represented 46% of all TB cases reported in the United States in 2004.
- Among U.S.-born persons reported with TB in 2004, 45% were black, non-Hispanic individuals.

Although rates of TB in both blacks and whites have declined substantially over the past decade, the disparity remains. We must better target our efforts to prevent and control TB in this minority population.

